

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A method for operating a network circuit using a uniform resource locator (URL), the uniform resource locator comprising a circuit-switched identifier part identifying a resource as being accessible via a circuit-switched network, an address part comprising the address of the resource, and a service parameter part, wherein it is the circuit-switched identifier part which identifies the specific type of circuit switched network via which the resource is accessible and the uniform resource locator has the format:

<circuit-switched identifier part>://<service parameter part>*<address part>

where * is a predetermined separator character.

15. (canceled)

16. (previously presented) A method as in claim 14 in which the identifier part identifies the resource as being accessible via an ATM network.

17. (previously presented) A method as in claim 16 in which the service parameter part includes ATM service parameters.

18. (previously presented) A method as in claim 14 in which the service parameter part includes an identifier for a connection topology.

19. (previously presented) A method as in claim 14 in which the service parameter part includes a parameter indicating a connection bandwidth.

20. (currently amended) A machine-readable carrier tangibly carrying machine executable instructions and a URL for operating a network circuit using the URL, the URL comprising a circuit-switched identifier part identifying a resource as being accessible via a circuit-switched network, an address part comprising the address of the resource, and a service parameter part, wherein it is the circuit-switched identifier part which identifies the specific type of circuit switched network via which the resource is accessible and the uniform resource locator has the format:

<circuit-switched identifier part>://<service parameter part>*<address part>

where * is a predetermined separator character.

21. (currently amended) A Uniform Resource Locator product with a uniform resource locator (URL), the uniform resource locator comprising a circuit-switched identifier part identifying a resource as being accessible via a circuit-switched network, an address part comprising the address of the resource, and a service parameter part, wherein it is the circuit-switched identifier part which identifies the specific type of circuit switched network via which the resource is accessible and the uniform resource locator has the format:

<circuit-switched identifier part>://<service parameter part>*<address part>

where * is a predetermined separator character.

22. (canceled).

23. (previously presented) A Uniform Resource Locator product according to claim 21, in which the identifier part identifies the resource as being accessible via an ATM network.

24. (previously presented) A Uniform Resource Locator product according to claim 23, in which the service parameter part includes ATM service parameters.

25. (previously presented) A Uniform Resource Locator product according to claim 21, in which the service parameter part includes an identifier for a connection topology.

26. (previously presented) A Uniform Resource Locator product according to claim 21, in which the service parameter part includes a parameter indicating a connection bandwidth.

27. (currently amended) A machine-readable carrier tangibly carrying machine executable instructions and a Uniform Resource Locator product with a Uniform

Resource Locator (URL) comprising a circuit-switched identifier part identifying a resource as being accessible via a circuit-switched network, an address part comprising the address of the resource, and a service parameter part, wherein it is the circuit-switched identifier part which identifies the specific type of circuit switched network via which the resource is accessible and the uniform resource locator has the format:

<circuit-switched identifier part>://<service parameter part>*<address part>

where * is a predetermined separator character.

28. (currently amended) A method of operating a terminal connected directly or indirectly to a circuit-switched network, the method comprising:

a) reading a uniform resource locator (URL), the URL comprising a circuit-switched identifier part identifying a resource as being accessible via a circuit-switched network, an address part comprising the address of the resource, and a service parameter part, wherein it is the circuit-switched identifier part which identifies the specific type of circuit switched network via which the resource is accessible and the uniform resource locator has the format: <circuit-switched identifier part>://<service parameter part>*<address part> where * is a predetermined separator character; and

b) subsequently establishing a connection between the customer terminal and the resource, the connection having properties determined at least in part by one or more parameters contained in the service parameter part.

29. (previously presented) A method according to claim 28, including reading the uniform resource locator from a server remote from the terminal.

30. (previously presented) A method according to claim 28, in which step (b) is initiated by the terminal.

31. (previously presented) A method according to claim 28 in which the identifier part identifies the resource as being accessible via an ATM network, and the service parameter part contains one or more ATM service parameters.

32. (currently amended) A terminal for use in a communications network including a circuit-switched network, the terminal comprising:

- a) a network interface for connection to the communications network; and
- b) a processor arranged to carry out the following steps:
 - i) reading a uniform resource locator (URL), the URL comprising a circuit-switched identifier part identifying a resource as being available via the circuit-switched network, an address part comprising the address of the resource, and a service parameter part, wherein it is the circuit-switched identifier part which identifies the specific type of circuit switched network via which the resource is accessible and the uniform resource locator has the format: <circuit-switched identifier part>://<service parameter part>*<address part> where * is a predetermined separator character; and
 - (ii) subsequently establishing a connection between the customer terminal and the resource, the connection having properties determined at least in part by one or more parameters contained in the service parameter part.

33. (previously presented) A data server for use in a communications network including a circuit-switched network, the data server including a store programmed with a Uniform Resource Locator product according to claim 21.

34. (previously presented) A terminal according to claim 32 in which the identifier part identifies the resource as being accessible via an ATM network, and the service parameter part contains one or more ATM service parameters.